



Report to the Consumer on Water Quality

January 1, 2008 – December 31, 2008
Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua beber. Tradúscalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.
Díj kwe'é naaltsoos hasht'eelyaayí 'éí nit haz'ánigí tó baa 'aháyáá dóó yá'át'ééh óolzinígíí yaa halne'.
Doo bik'i'dinit hgóó da, t'áá háida ta' níká'doolwot dóó hazhó'ó yee nit ch'ihodoo'áát.

Consumer Confidence Report
The mission of the Utilities Department is to professionally and cost effectively provide water and wastewater services that meet the present and future environmental, health and safety needs of the community and our co-workers.

Water Production			
Water Production Source	Water Production (MG) 2008	Water Production (MG) 2007	% of Last Year
Lake Mary Surface Water	984 Million Gallons	96 Million Gallons	1025%
Lake Mary Wellfield	490 Million Gallons	836 Million Gallons	59%
Woody Mountain Wellfield	771 Million Gallons	1306 Million Gallons	59%
Inner Basin North RFP	139 Million Gallons	122 Million Gallons	114%
Local Wells	420 Million Gallons	476 Million Gallons	88%
Total Production	2776 MG	2873 MG	97%
Population Base	64,908	Per Capita (gallons per day)	117 GPD

We are committed to a goal of 100% customer satisfaction. This will be achieved by a dedication to exceed customer expectations by continuously improving our operations. We value our co-workers and strive to maintain high motivation by providing an environment that encourages improvement and teamwork.

Water Quality is always of paramount importance and I am pleased to present you the **2008 City of Flagstaff Report to the Consumer on Water Quality**.

This annual report outlines where your drinking water comes from, how it is treated and the results of tests performed on the quality of Flagstaff's drinking water.

Additionally, as mandated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, this report informs you of contaminant levels in your drinking water, as well as violations incurred last year, among other important health information. Thank you.

Randy Pellatz
Director, Utilities Department

Is My Water Safe?
During 2008, 1406 water samples were taken and analyzed to meet our goal of providing quality water to our customers and to ensure compliance with all the standards required by the Safe Drinking Water Act. Last year, as in years past, your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state drinking water health standards. Local Water vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and once again we are proud to report that our system has not violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard

Do I Need to Take Special Precautions?
Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

Where Does My Water Come From?
In 2008 the Utilities Department distributed approximately 2776 million gallons of water an average Of 7.60 million gallons per day. Total water production was down 3.4 % over last year.

The City of Flagstaff is supplied by surface water from Upper Lake Mary and the Inner Basin of the San Francisco Peaks. We also pump groundwater from the Woody Mountain Wellfield, Lake Mary Wellfield, and other Local Wells, which tap the Coconino and Supai Aquifers. These sources blend in the water distribution system and the amount of water coming from each source varies throughout the year.

Source Water Assessment and Its Availability
The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Based on a mandate set forth in the 1996 amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act, ADEQ evaluated each water source used by public water systems in Arizona. These evaluations assessed the hydrogeology of drinking water sources to determine the quality of groundwater being drawn into wells, evaluated the watersheds supplying surface water, and surveyed land use activities occurring near drinking water sources. This information is now used to determine the degree to which a public drinking water source is protected from, or at risk of, contamination. It is also used to assist local communities in implementing source water protection measures.

Adjacent land uses within a specified proximity to a drinking water source, or the designated source water assessment area, can now be evaluated by ADEQ to determine if they are in fact posing a contamination risk. ADEQ has compliance information (occurrence data) on all public water systems in Arizona as well as many of the land uses found within drinking water source water assessment areas.

Because of this customized approach in studying each individual system, the source water assessment reports allow for better protection of drinking water and allow ADEQ to tailor monitoring requirements specific to each system where appropriate.

For example, if a water system has no history of contamination by a particular chemical, as well as no potential for future contamination (based on land use practices and the risk they might pose to water sources), then monitoring relief or reduced monitoring for that chemical may be granted for that system. Another water system with a history of problems or the potential for contamination with the same chemical would still be required to monitor for that substance.

ADEQ is confident that these assessments and the related source water protection activities are instrumental in preserving drinking water safety.

Arizona's Source Water Assessment Plan
<http://www.azdeq.gov/environ/water/dw/download/swapplan.pdf>

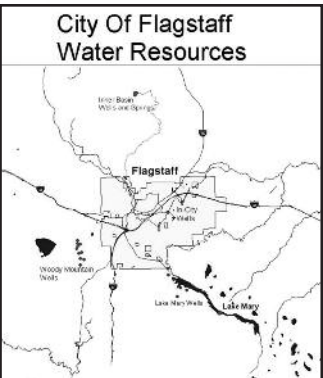
To review Source Water Assessment Reports for public water systems visit
<http://www.azdeq.gov/environ/water/dw/swap.html>

Why Are There Contaminants in My Drinking Water?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Contaminants That May Be Present In Source Water

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.



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Microbial Contaminants: Viruses, bacteria, and protozoa, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife. Microbial contaminants can cause short-term effects such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, and people with compromised immune systems.

Inorganic Contaminants: Salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming. Certain inorganic contaminants consumed at levels in excess of the maximum contaminate level (MCL) may result in skin damage, circulatory problems, liver problems, kidney damage, and increased risk of cancer

Pesticides and Herbicides: Which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, storm-water runoff, and residential uses. Pesticides and herbicides consumed at levels greater than the required MCL may result in increased risk of blood problems, reproductive difficulties, kidney and liver damage, and increased risk of cancer.

Synthetic and Volatile Organic Chemical Contaminants: Which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm-water runoff and septic systems. Synthetic and volatile organic contaminants consumed at levels greater than the required MCL may result in increased risk of blood problems, reproductive difficulties, kidney and liver damage, and increased risk of cancer.

Radioactive Contaminants: Which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. Radioactive contaminants may result in an increased risk of getting cancer.

Drinking Water Regulations

Haloacetic Acids: Haloacetic acids (HAA5) are disinfection by-products that are formed when chlorine is used as the disinfectant. These compounds can increase the risk of cancer, and became regulated as of January 1, 2002 with a MCL of 60 ppb.

Total Trihalomethanes: Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) are disinfection by-products that are formed when chlorine is used as the disinfectant. These compounds can increase the risk of cancer, and became regulated as of January 1, 2002 with a MCL of 80 ppb.

Chlorite: Chlorite is a byproduct of chlorine dioxide disinfection. The MCL for chlorite in the distribution system is 1.0 ppm. Potential health effects that may be attributed to exceeding the MCL for chlorite include anemia and nervous system effects in infants, young children and the fetuses of pregnant women.

Maximum Residual Disinfection Level (MRDL): Regulations for the Maximum Residual Disinfection Level (MRDL) set a maximum limit for the running annual average MRDL at 4.0 ppm for chlorine. Chlorine dioxide is a disinfection used in the treatment of surface water. The MRDL for chlorine dioxide leaving the treatment plant is 800 ppb. Potential health effects that may be attributed to exceeding the MRDL for chlorine dioxide include anemia and nervous system effects in infants, young children and the fetuses of pregnant women.

TOC Removal Requirements: Control of disinfection by-product precursors has brought new regulations governing TOC removal requirements. TOC removal is accomplished through enhanced coagulation or enhanced softening. Regulations require a 50% TOC removal when the raw water TOC concentration is >8mg/L and alkalinity is <60mg/L. Violations occur when the ratio of the amount of actual TOC removal divided by the required amount of TOC removal is <1 when taken as a running annual average.

Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule: Implemented in 2006 is designed to reduce the disease incidence associated with Cryptosporidium and other pathogenic organisms by building on existing rules.

Additional Information for Arsenic

While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

Monitoring and Reporting of Compliance Data Violations

ADEQ and the Flagstaff Municipal Water System work together to ensure that your drinking water meets all the monitoring requirements mandated by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA).

On 10/25/08, 11/01/08 and 11/08/08 the weekend operations staff failed to monitor for Chlorine Dioxide and Chlorite at the Entry Point To Distribution (EPDS) at the Lake Mary Water Treatment Plant. During this time period the levels of these analyzes were well below the Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) for Chlorine Dioxide at 800 ppb and the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for Chlorite at 1.0 ppm.

Chlorite levels ranged from <0.10 to 0.254 ppm and Chlorine Dioxide levels ranged from <100 to 317 ppb from 10/01/08 to 11/09/08. Due to the dosing level of Chlorine Dioxide and the ranges given above there are no anticipated adverse health affects. The staff have been re-trained and counseled and the report form reformatted for maximum clarity.

How Can I Get Involved?

It is the obligation of the Utilities Department to provide a safe and adequate supply of drinking water. To help please our customers and meet our obligation, the Utilities Department strongly encourages public input and community participation on decisions affecting your water resources.

Regular Flagstaff Water Commission meetings are held the third Thursday of each month. Meeting locations are posted on the official City bulletin board at City Hall.

Meetings begin at 4:00 PM and you are always welcome.

Copies of this report are available at the Utilities Administration Office, City Hall, 211 West Aspen Avenue, Flagstaff, Arizona 86001
Or on our web site at: www.flagstaff.az.gov

This report provides you with valuable information about Your drinking water that is easy to understand. We hope the results found in this report confirm that you can count On the City of Flagstaff for quality at the tap.

City of Flagstaff 2008 Water Quality Table

What Does the Water Quality Table Mean?

The Water Quality Table lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

Thank you for reading this important information on your water's quality
We'll be happy to answer your questions about the City of Flagstaff's Water Supply

WATER QUALITY INFORMATION:

Christine Krosnicki, Water Production Manager
Lake Mary Water Treatment Plant at (928) 774 - 0262

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT INFORMATION:

John Davison, Program Assistant
Utilities Administration at (928) 779 - 7685 x4838

FIND INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR WATER SYSTEM ON THE CITY OF FLAGSTAFF WEBSITE AT: www.flagstaff.az.gov

Water quality data for community water systems throughout the United States is also available at:

Environmental Protection Agency - Local Drinking Water Information
<http://www.epa.gov/safewater/dwinfo/index.html>



Red Gap Ranch

Water Quality Data Table

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Average Level	Range Low High		Sample Date		
Contaminants	MRDLG	MRDL	Level	Low	High	Date	Violation	Typical Source
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.)								
Chlorine (as Cl2) (ppm)	4	4	1.5	0.07	1.5	2008	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorine Dioxide (ppb)	800	800	<100	<100	317	2008	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorite (ppm)	0.8	1.0	0.02	<0.01	0.151	2008	No	By-product of Chlorine Dioxide
Halooacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	60	60	41.7	<1.0	140.0	2008	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
THMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	80	80	38.9	<5.0	132.0	2008	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Organic Carbon (TOC) % removal	TT	TT	57.4	42.9	81.6	2008	No	Naturally present in the environment

Inorganic Contaminants								
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	1.4	<1.0	5.0	2008	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Asbestos	7	7	0.27	<0.20	0.35	2008	No	Decay of asbestos cement water mains; Erosion of natural deposits
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.41	0.005	0.97	2008	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppb)	100	100	1.3	<1.0	2.4	2008	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.06	<0.05	1.4	2008	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

Inorganic Contaminants								
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	0.47	<0.2	1.4	2008	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	1	1	<0.16	<0.10	<0.2	2008	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits

	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Average Level	Range Low High		Sample Date		
Contaminants	MRDLG	MRDL	Level	Low	High	Date	Violation	Typical Source
Microbiological Contaminants								
A violation occurs when a routine sample and a repeat sample, in any given month, are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or E. coli positive.								
Total Coliform (% positive samples/month)	0	5	NA	NA	1.4	2008	No	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity (NTU) 100% of the samples were below the TT value of 0.3. A value less than 95% constitutes a TT violation.						2008	No	Soil runoff
The highest single measurement was 0.3. Any measurement in excess of 1 is a violation unless otherwise approved by the state.								
Radioactive Contaminants								
Radium (combined 226/228) (pCi/L)	0	5	0.25	<0.3	0.5	2008	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (ug/L)	0	30	2.0	1.9	2.1	2008	No	Erosion of natural deposits

	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants							
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.16	2007	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	2	2007	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Undetected Contaminants					
The following contaminants were monitored for, but not detected, in your water.					
	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL or MRDL	Your Water	Violation	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants					
Mercury [Inorganic] (ppb)	2	2	ND	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from refineries and factories; Runoff from landfills; Runoff from cropland

Unit Descriptions	
Term	Definition
ug/L	ug/L : Number of micrograms of substance in one liter of water
Ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
Ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
pCi/L	pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
NTU	NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.
positive samples	positive samples/yr: The number of positive samples taken that year
% positive samples/month	% positive samples/month: Percent of samples taken monthly that were positive
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.

Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	Definition
MCLG	MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
MCL	MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MFL	Million fibers per liter
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. The level of a drinking water
MRDL	MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated

The City of Flagstaff has historically relied upon surface water from the Inner Basin and Upper Lake Mary for its water supply dating back to the 1890s. In response to drought conditions in the 1950s affecting these surface water supplies, the City began drilling water wells near Woody Mountain and Lake Mary. In order to bring all of these water resources to the citizens of Flagstaff, three pipelines were constructed.

The City's hydrologic records show that groundwater levels in some water supply wells have been steadily decreasing over the past decade. The City is currently evaluating its local water supplies (both groundwater and surface water) to determine their sustainability and reliability over the next 100-years.

The citizens of Flagstaff in 2004 approved a \$15 million Bond Election in order to acquire and/or develop property or water rights in response to the need to diversify the community's water resource portfolio for residents both here today and into the future. The City purchased Red Gap Ranch, 40 miles east of Flagstaff, in 2005.

The Pipeline Alignment Feasibility Study, being performed by JACOBS Engineering, will develop a 30% conceptual design of the pipeline and pumping stations, identify the right-of-way that needs to be purchased, identify the environmental concerns and issues (e.g., cultural, biological and archeological) and develop an estimated cost for final design, construction and operation of the pipeline. There are three phases to the 18-month long study.

Two public Open House meetings have been held at City Hall in order to get feedback and input from the community at large. For more information on current progress or to be notified of future Open House opportunities, refer to the Public Involvement portion of the city's website for Utilities/Red Gap Ranch Pipeline. www.flagstaff.az.gov

Rebates Gone!

The City Water Conservation rebate program was suspended on December 31, 2008. No more rebates will be issued for high efficiency toilets or waterless urinals, washing machines, or hot water re-circulators. The turf grass removal rebate has also been suspended with the exception of customers who received an initial turf inspection prior to December 31, 2008. These customers will still be eligible for the rebate. It still makes sense to purchase water efficient appliances and fixtures and to reduce high water intense landscaping, as savings will occur through reduced water use.

Water Bill Reduction?

When you mow your lawn, is this the only time you walk across it? Does it seem to require so much water during late April to July that your water bill doubles? Are you spending money on fertilizers and chemicals? If this sounds familiar, it might be time to switch to an alternate landscape. A

successful transformation can save 50% or more on outdoor watering and result in savings on your water bill.

Smithsonian estimates that one hour of mowing and the gasoline required equates to around 20 miles driven in a vehicle. The average homeowner might spend around 40 hours per year mowing with mowers consuming 580 million gallons of gasoline each year. In addition, homeowners use ten times more pesticides per acre than farmers - 67 million pounds of pesticides applied to lawns each year in the US. If these figures are not alarming enough, it is known that the lawn is one of the leading crops in America consuming more than twice the acreage planted in cotton.

Kentucky bluegrass lawns require 35-40 inches of water annually. Most of this has to be supplemental water, because our average rainfall is not adequate to support this grass type. The average precipitation for Flagstaff for the last six years is 19.38 inches. Many local nursery or landscape company personnel are knowledgeable about Xeriscaping and other low water use landscape options. To begin the conversion, take time to plan and then take on small areas at a time if doing the project yourself. Use gravel products sparingly as pathways or ways to move water to those plants that make the landscape so appealing. Plantings close to the house may take advantage of rainwater harvesting and the use of a rain barrel that directs water where it is needed the most. There is a certain irony to draining rainwater down the driveway into the street and then using drinking water to water plants just outside the front door. If not able to set up a rainwater harvesting system, the old irrigation system should be re-worked to water only where needed.

Make the move! Transform your landscape to one that requires less maintenance, reduces or eliminates the need for pesticides or gasoline, and adds seasonal interest. Learn the benefits of compost or other organic mulches and their water holding properties. Capture water. Conserve water. Plan for the future.

EPA WaterSense

Are you familiar with the EnergyStar program? EPA has a new program dedicated to labeling and certification of appliances and fixtures that are more water efficient. Make your next purchase of a toilet or faucet a WaterSense purchase. The City of Flagstaff is a WaterSense Partner. For more information view the website. www.epa.gov/watersense

